CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

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NOTE VERBALE DATED 1 JUNE 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF MALAYSIA ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CONFERENCE TRANSMITTING THE TEXTS OF TWO PRESS RELEASES ISSUED BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF MALAYSIA RELATING TO THE UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR TESTS CONDUCTED BY INDIA AND PAKISTAN

The Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the United Nations and other international organizations in Geneva presents is compliments to the Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament and has the honor to transmit herewith two Press Releases issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia which are as follows:

i. Press Release by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia on the underground nuclear tests conducted by India; issued on 12 May 1998, and

ii. Press Release by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia on the underground nuclear tests conducted by Pakistan; issued on 29 May 1998.

The Mission has further the honor to request that both these Press Releases be circulated as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament.

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BEST COPY AVAILABLE

PRESS RELEASE BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MALAYSIA ON THE UNDER GROUND NUCLEAR TESTS CONDUCTED BY INDIA

Malaysia deplores the underground nuclear tests conducted by India on 11 May 1998. The action by India is a serious set back to keep the region free of nuclear weapons and undermines the efforts of the international community towards attaining a complete ban on nuclear testing. Malaysia is particularly disappointed that India has taken such a step in the light of the overwhelming adoption of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT).

Malaysia calls on India to cease developing its capability to produce nuclear weapons immediately. Malaysia further urges all countries in the region to exercise maximum restrain and refrain from action that could further heighten tension in the region. It is hoped that all countries would actively participate in international efforts aimed at achieving a world free of nuclear weapons.

Malaysia underlines the importance of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in achieving the universal goal of general and complete disarmament and enhancement of peace and stability. Malaysia reiterates its strong opposition to nuclear testing and the continued possession of weapons of mass destruction. Malaysia further underlines the need for Nuclear Weapons States to demonstrate stronger commitment to the goals of nuclear disarmament and the ultimate elimination of these weapons through a programmed reduction and elimination of their nuclear arsenals.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Kuala Lumpur
MALAYSIA

12 May 1998.

PRESS RELEASE BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MALAYSIA ON THE UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR TESTS CONDUCTED BY PAKISTAN

Malaysia deplores the underground nuclear tests conducted by Pakistan on 28 May 1998. The action by Pakistan is a further set back to efforts to keep the region free of nuclear weapons and from the threat of nuclear conflicts. Malaysia calls on Pakistan to cease developing its capability to produce nuclear weapons immediately.

Malaysia is deeply concerned over recent developments in the South Asian region which would lead to a dangerous competition for nuclear superiority. Malaysia urges all countries concerned to refrain from such a competition, exercise maximum restraint and prevent the further escalation of tension.

The action by countries in the South Asian region to detonate nuclear devices have undermined the efforts of the international community towards attaining a complete ban on nuclear testing and achieving the goal of nuclear non-proliferation. Malaysia is particularly disappointed that nuclear tests continue to be conducted despite the overwhelming adoption of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT).

Malaysia reiterates its strong opposition to nuclear testing and the continued possession of nuclear weapons. Malaysia urges all the nuclear weapons states to demonstrate a stronger commitment to the goals of nuclear disarmament and the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons within a time-bound framework. Malaysia also calls upon all states to actively participate in international efforts aimed at the complete elimination of nuclear weapons and the realization of a world free of nuclear weapons.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Kuala Lumpur
MALAYSIA

29 May 1998.